

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group: Unknown

Attorney

Docket: 26502-67310

Applicant: Plouhar, et al.

Invention: TISUE GRAFT CONSTRUCT FOR
REPLACEMENT OF
CARTILAGENOUS STRUCTURES

U.S. Serial No: Unknown

U.S. Filing Date: January 23, 2001

Examiner: Unknown

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Preliminary to examination of the above-captioned application applicants
request entry of the following amendments:

In the Specification

After the title, please insert the following paragraph:

-- Cross Reference to Related Applications

This application is a divisional application of U.S. patent application
serial No. 08/913,771, filed December 17, 1997, which is a U.S. national
application of international application serial No. PCT/US97/04527, filed April

4, 1997, which is a continuation-in-part of and claims priority to U.S. patent application serial No. 08/628,773, filed April 5, 1996, now issued as U.S.

Patent No. 5,788,625. - -

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 1 - 48.

Please add new claims 49 -54 as follows:

49. A method of reconstructing a joint having two bones separated by cartilaginous material, said method comprising

removing a portion of the cartilaginous material to create a defect site;

positioning an anatomically shaped reconstructive structure comprising multiple layers of submucosa and having a thickness of about 1 to about 12 millimeters adjacent to said defect site; and

securing said reconstructive structure to said defect site.

50 The method of claim 49 wherein said cartilaginous material is hyaline cartilage.

51. The method of claim 49 wherein said cartilaginous material is elastic cartilage.

52. The method of claim 49 wherein said cartilaginous material is fibrocartilage.

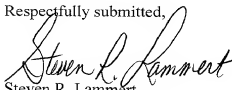
53. The method of claim 49 wherein the defect site comprises bleeding bone.

54. The method of claim 53 further comprising the step of positioning a barrier layer between said bleeding bone and said reconstructive structure, securing said barrier layer to said bleeding bone and securing said reconstructive structure to said barrier layer.

REMARKS

The foregoing amendment adding a cross reference to related applications is submitted to make a proper priority claim under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and 121 to the related nonprovisional applications. Claims 1- 48 have been canceled. New claims 49 -54 have been added. . Support for these claims is found throughout the specification and particularly in claims 42 - 45 as originally filed. No new matter has been added by way of these amendments. This application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Allowance is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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